

1-15-1939

## Personal letter sent to Parchman

Martha Alice Stewart

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### Recommended Citation

Stewart, Martha Alice, "Personal letter sent to Parchman" (1939). *Correspondence and Documents*. 9.  
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Fri. mte

Dear Stewart:

I sure thought you had forgotten me but glad to know you still remembered me. I was also glad to get your Christmas greeting.

I did have lovely Christmas. My trip was almost ideal. The bus ride wasn't as comfortable as train but got other much cheaper & as result took it. I hadn't seen Sweet for two and half yrs. & did we talk. Sweet had lot lovely friends & they all entertained me. Sweet has small room at hotel & the manager told her he wanted me to be guest of hotel & he put me in large room, private bath down hall from Sweet & there I stayed for several days. Of course I asked to let me pay my bill & he refused to accept anything. I never was treated that loyal before. He & his wife are lovely to Sweet.



Well I sure am enjoying being  
down in God's country. I do  
pray the Lord is good enough  
to me to not ever cause me  
to go back <sup>into</sup> hills. I sure am  
trying to forget I ever spent  
eight months in Pike Co.  
I made one lovely friend  
there I always want to  
claim. Mrs. N. F. Walters  
she has prince of husband  
& darling girl Luella.

I do enjoy being near  
Lex. & I ~~do~~ go over often. I  
have lots nice friends there  
& always something to go  
to. I wish I could get  
teaching job there but seems  
all my efforts are fruitless.

I am invited to Louisville  
for wk. end some time in  
Feb. Then we get out two  
days for N. E. A. first of Apr.  
This is held in Louisville.  
I am also planning on going  
to the Derby in May.

Have you seen the picture  
"Kentucky"? Do see it and then  
you will be wanting to come  
to the Derby.



This fall the Nat. Fox Hunter's Ass. meet here for wk. & one a.m. before day break. Several of us teachers drove out in country to see the "Cast" at daybreak. I was rather thrilling experience & very picturesque. Our Supt. closed School on Fri. P.M. for all to attend "Drag" over Fayette Co. but started raining & simply poured, the "Drag" had to be called off. I did regret not seeing this.

I spent rather miserable Summer. Here it was first of June that I went down Louisville see Jack & we had disagreement that led to our quitting for keeps. This truly hurts me & still am not over it but time will heal the hurt I know I didn't have a job either and this was nearly running me crazy. I didn't get asked back up mts. as several of home girls had finished college & they wanted them. However I could not have gone back had I had anything else.



I had my application in here for  
vacancy that was created  
in early part of summer but  
they didn't fill it until about  
five days before school opened  
in Sept. They had heaps of  
applications & I just didn't  
know what to expect. This  
is new Supt. from one I  
taught under here before.  
He truly is lovely to work  
under.

Mamma & Dad are with  
me. Dad hasn't had work  
for several yrs. He is well  
but never in his life ever  
thought of any thing but  
railroad ties & lumber  
& once older man out work  
just no chance get in again.  
The girls help me some  
but you know how such  
gives always such a re-  
sponsibility falls on the  
one that is left single.  
They enjoyed their winter  
in H. la. David girls were  
so glad to have them but  
they are better satisfied  
here with me & doing as they  
please. I am making \$100.  
per month draw salary  
12 months but teach only 10.  
This is first time I ever was



paid during vacation but am sure will be grand idea. I am I think, excellent manager & I get along O. K. Those yrs. out work I got terribly behind & if ever get caught up can run O. K.

I had card from Cora May & Lela. Lela wrote short note & I was glad to hear from her. She was asking about you. I wrote Eva a long letter one nite this wk. I had been owing it for more than a month.

So sorry to know your mother had had a fall & was ill so long. I know she was glad to have you home.

I too am glad you have continued to have regular work. Honey you don't know how terrible it is to be with out & needing it. Only thing when we stay in one place so terribly long we <sup>get</sup> in rut & everything seems to hit us wrong.

Well it seems with no home work to do for my school



work I should get more reading done but all I have done is I read regularly these magazines McCalls Woman's Home Companion Good House Keeping Cosmopolitan Reader Digest Life (weekly) & daily paper "Courier Journal" I am starting to take nat. Geographical magazine. I am not any more of issues in arrears reading.

This vacancy I took was what they call "Opportunity Room" low mentally. They cannot be assigned work to take home. have make short assignments & let them work under my supervision & check papers in class no exams & as result no home work. Supt. has promised soon as possible he will put me in the work I am fitted to do "Jr. High Geog." This is one thing that will make me happy. I love Geog. Did you read the "Citadel"? I didn't but saw picture the other day & it was lovely.

This fall it seems I have done great deal fixing on my clothes. All had be hemmed up & made smaller in hips. I have fallen off lbs but



during holidays I ate too much + I measured my hips last nite + have gained about inch. I quit my exercising few wks before Christ - just busy + tired at nite, then after returned busy + had take time off for <sup>my</sup> monthly party + just got back to them few nites ago but I am sticking now. I really lost about  $4\frac{1}{2}$  in. in hips by exercises + I feel better when taking them.

<sup>two</sup>  
x<sub>3</sub> Last Jan '37 yrs ago I had get new glasses by focals + they set me back \$2.50. I had pair dress up glasses nose type, chain around my neck + they needed lens changed + just before I went N. C. I had them changed + that another \$6.50 but think I am fixed up now for awhile. I wear them all time + have done so for yrs. Sorry you had to put them on.

no I never saw football game. Yrs ago used to be interested in basket ball but haven't seen a game in



yes.

What were you operated on for? Seems you have had some experiences in last yr. Glad yours was a success. My appendicitis operation + removal in 1928 was a success but I sure stayed in long time + took good care of myself.

We had lovely snow to greet us Thanks giving a.m. but none since until today. Snow fell during nite + has rained all day, such a shock you never did see. We have not had a great deal rain this winter, been cold but nothing severe.

When folks came home from Fla. in Apr. we rented apt. (upstairs one) + just last few days of first month we were there old sister that we rented from told us she didn't like us + she wished we would vacate. We knew if started new month had pay her for whole month + we got busy + in three days search we had take first



thing we found large enough. We rented six room house to ourselves but no yard or garden & house in bad repair. We are now on hunt for place (cottage) yard & garden. Everything is so dirty we are crazy to get moved & cleaned up. I have lots work to do, varnishing, shellacing, upholstering, ~~to~~ ~~do~~. my bed room furniture is ached & it is all needing going over. So you can see what I have ahead of me.

I have a precious friend here Mrs Bill Moore. She was our neighbor for short while before we sold our property on S. Main. She is much younger than I but in ways & actions older than she is. She has 2 precious girls, 10 & 11, & nice husband. I dearly love her & she would do any thing for me & it is mutual. I spent my last yr. Thanksgiving & Christmas with them. My folks were in Fla. I pass away



lots of time with her. I am  
going there tomorrow afternoon  
take supper & stay until  
bed time. We pass long  
phone conversations & she  
is truly a bright spot with  
me.

I think I have rambled  
long enough.

Be Sweet.

Love,  
'mack.





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Miss Martha A. Stewart  
Sunflower Hosp.  
Parchman  
Mississippi